

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Makoto SASAKI et al. : Attn: **BOX PCT**

Serial No. 10/049,823 : Docket No. **2002-0255A**

Filed February 19, 2002 :

METHOD FOR PRODUCING CYCLIC POLYETHER COMPOUNDS : THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.  
[Corresponding to PCT/JP01/01872  
Filed March 9, 2001]

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In the interest of compact prosecution, please amend the present application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

*Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 12 on page 11 of the specification with the following rewritten paragraph:*

Furthermore, the catalyst was changed to Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>/o-(di-t-butylphosphino)biphenyl, which was reported as being effective in proceeding the coupling reaction in high yield at room temperature (*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1999, 121, 9550-9561); the reaction was carried out in dioxane at room temperature for 24 hours.